

GAYNOR DISMISSES EXAMINING BOARD OF CITY PLUMBERS

Asks Albert de Roode to Reorganize Graft-Undermined Office.

APPLICANTS MULCTED.

To Stop This Special Assistant Corporation Counsel Will be Appointed.

Major Gaynor has dismissed the entire Examining Board of Plumbers and requested Albert de Roode, Secretary of the Civil Service Reform Association, to take command of the office of the discharged members, and reorganize it from top to bottom. Mr. de Roode will be appointed a Special Assistant Corporation Counsel with full power to act as a city official and member of the city law department.

The Mayor announced the appointment of James M. Morrow of No. 42 Adelphi street, Brooklyn, of James M. Sons & Co., and Paul S. Bolger of 181 Madison avenue, a master plumber at No. 686 Lexington avenue, to the Examining Board of Plumbers.

The dismissals did not come as a surprise following the disclosures made by the Commissioners of Accounts who for months had been quietly examining the records in the office and receiving testimony from applicants for plumbers' certificates who said they had been "turned down" for refusal to pay money. The Commissioners said that money was actually being demanded for answers to questions propounded by the board or other officials in the office.

It is likely that a thorough overhauling of the office, concerning other employees who, it is said, must have had knowledge of the condition of affairs, will follow.

MAYOR TELLS HIS REASONS FOR DISMISSALS.

The men dismissed today are Edwin Hayward of No. 2317 Tilden avenue, Brooklyn; August C. Schwager, No. 210 West Eighth street, and James J. Donahue, No. 302 West Forty-seventh street. These members received daily fees for sitting in judgment on plumbers seeking certificates.

The Mayor thus explained his step in a letter.

"Dear Mr. de Roode: I desire to put the Examining Board of Plumbers under your charge and hope you will accept the responsibility and be able to devote the necessary time to it. I see no other way out of the present difficulties. I have had to dismiss the present board for misconduct in office. Complaints have been coming in all along that their certificates of competency were purchasable.

"And now we find from looking over the examination papers that the similarity of answers and the similarity of sentences and punctuation marks, shows that the questions were obtained in advance by favorite applicants for examination. I shall have the Corporation Counsel appoint you a Special Corporation Counsel to take charge of the whole matter if you will consent to serve. I hope you will do this, for I want to make clean work of the organization of this board, and put it on an honest and intelligent working footing.

"Sincerely yours,

"W. J. GAYNOR, Mayor."

DE ROODE WELCOMES TASK OF REORGANIZATION.

Expressing his contempt for "laborers" who, when in authority, "mult their fellow laborers," and agreeing to undertake the task, Mr. de Roode replied that he had in mind as the fundamentals of the work of this Board that the examinations be honestly conducted and that they be designed to test the competency of the applicants as plumbers.

"I think we should not make the examinations too severe, but should admit them to the class of citizens examined; after all, plumbers are not civil or sanitary engineers," he said.

Renaway Hits Gem Shop.

A green team owned by the Levitson Gas Fixture Company of No. 168 Bowery ran away today from Delancey street and the Bowery. Isaac Looskowitz, the driver, lost all control and the horses crossed the sidewalk and ran into the show window of the jewelry store of Nathan Hebold. Police- man Scheldig kept volunteer wreckers from the stock until Hebold had gathered up the scattered jewelry. The driver and horses were unhurt.

Best & Co.

While our new departments devoted to Women's Apparel are most complete, we are more than ever prepared with the apparel for Infants and Children for which we are so justly noted.

We ask your attention to our regular advertisement appearing on another page of this paper.

FIFTH AVE. At Thirty-fifth St.

World Wants Work Wonders.

Mrs. Wilson's "Official" Photograph

This photograph is the latest picture of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, and she and the President-elect desire that it be regarded and used as the "official" photograph. They consider it the best Mrs. Wilson has ever had taken.



MRS. WOODROW WILSON.

GAYNOR LASHES PASTOR WHO CALLED BROOKLYN A VESTIBULE OF HELL

Criticizes Mr. Osterheld in a Letter to Right Rev. P. F. O'Hare.

Mayor Gaynor in a letter sent today to the Right Rev. P. F. O'Hare of St. Anthony's Church, Brooklyn, declares that the people of Greenpoint are "not given over to vice and crime" and takes exception to the utterance of another Brooklyn clergyman recently that "Greenpoint, or Brooklyn, is the 'vestibule of hell.'" This latter statement was made from the pulpit a week ago last Sunday by the Rev. Dudley Oliver Osterheld of the Greenpoint M. E. Church and copies of the sermon were sent to the Mayor.

Then the Right Rev. O'Hare took up the cudgels for Brooklyn, declaring it was a clean borough morally and otherwise and was particularly free from vice and crime for so largely a populated community. A copy of the Right Rev. Mr. O'Hare's sermon was also sent to the Mayor. Mayor Gaynor's comment was in part as follows: "I agree with you that the people of Greenpoint are not given over to vice and crime and disorder. The very few preachers who are saying that are, as a rule, more notorious seekers, and, as a rule, minister to empty benches, as might be expected. People go willingly to hear those who have the great charity and love of Jesus in their hearts.

"There are bad people in Greenpoint, the same as everywhere else, and we must do the best we can to turn them from their evil ways. I see one clergyman over in your immediate neighborhood says that Greenpoint, or Brooklyn, is the 'vestibule of hell.' These are his words. What a charitable soul he must be. "And yet the truth is, shown by the records, that Brooklyn is more free from crime and vice than any other equal population in the world. Its entire criminal business above tier grade of petty offenses is disposed of by one criminal court. Just think of that being true of 1,500,000 people. And yet there are some scamps who call Brooklyn the 'vestibule of hell.' But we must be charitable and kind to them, and try to reclaim them from their unhappiness, and their propensity to bear false witness."

WILSON IN TRENTON GIVES WARNING TO WATCH OLD BOSSES

Says Recent Events Show They Are Trying to Regain Control of Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 17.—Woodrow Wilson came back to the State House in a fighting spirit, and issued a warning to the voters of the State against politicians who have opposed his progressive policies and who, he said, would again seek to control the State government as soon as he steps from the Governorship. He urged that their plans should be blocked at once.

"I have been surprised," says the President-elect's statement, "by the numerous inquiries as to whether I would continue to take interest in the political affairs of the State after assuming my duties as President, and yet I realize the significance of these inquiries. Last summer I warned the voters of the State very explicitly that the men who formerly controlled and discredited our politics were awaiting their opportunity to recover their control, and were expecting to find it. What I then said has been abundantly verified by what has happened in the interval.

"I am keenly aware of the fact that these men have so little respect for the voters of New Jersey that they think all they have to do is to wait to come back into power. They will be sorely disappointed. They cannot again impose upon the voters of New Jersey. If they should in some evil moment recover control of the party machinery they will only ruin the party and put it permanently out of power. Every step they take, therefore, to reestablish their power should be at once exposed and stopped.

"The people of the State need not fear that I will become indifferent as long as their confidence encourages me to believe that they wish my aid and counsel. I shall in the future use every proper and legitimate power I have and every influence at my disposal to support and assist the new forces which have regenerated our life during the past two years.

"I shall not go slack in this business, for I understand my duty to be to stand back of the progressive forces in the Democratic party everywhere and at every juncture, and I feel that in these matters I am under particular obligations of conscience and gratitude to the people of New Jersey."

MRS. SICKLES WON'T HELP.

It was learned today that General

Daniel E. Sickles will have to extricate himself from his financial difficulties without the assistance of his wife. John J. Kirby, Mrs. Sickles's attorney, said she has no intention of helping him at present.

Mr. Kirby said that whatever interest Mrs. Sickles took in the matter did not concern the New York Monuments Commission fund. Daniel F. Hayes, attorney for Gen. Sickles, declared the General would issue no further statement. Stanton Sickles refused to be seen and Gen. Anson G. McCook said the commission had no statement to make.



buy presents wisely in United Cigar Stores. Every man welcomes cigars and here are brands favored by a million men daily—surely a guarantee of value and quality. They merely suggest a few of our brands and prices. We have others, ranging by easy steps up to \$25.50 a box of 25 cigars.

CLEAR HAVANA Box of 25
Havana American, Regent Size . . . \$3.00
El Belmont, Mediano Size . . . 2.50
Havana American, Ambassador Size . . . 2.50
El Principe de Gales, Governor Size . . . 2.00
Havana-American, Senator Size . . . 2.00
Regensburg-American, Concha Size . . . 2.00

PORTO RICAN Box of 25
Ricor, Bismark Size . . . \$3.00
Ricor, Exceptional Size . . . 2.50
La Restina, Perfecto Size . . . 2.50
La Sunchita, Alfonso Size . . . 2.25
Ricor, Invisible Size . . . 1.75
La Restina, Petit Duc Size . . . 1.50

DOMESTIC Box of 25
Spencer Arms, Perfecto Size . . . \$2.00
Orlando, Media Perfecto Size . . . 2.00
Jose M. Fernandez, Invisible Size . . . 1.75
Palma de Cuba, Media Perfecto Size . . . 1.50
Sensaria, Perfecto Size . . . 1.50
Palma de Cuba, Londres Size . . . 1.50
Benefactor, Invisible Size . . . 1.50

The finest line of Brier and Moccasin Pipes, Cigar and Cigarette Holders, etc., to be found anywhere.

UNITED CIGAR STORES

GAVE LAST DOLLAR AND HIS HOME FOR BAD MINING STOCK

Victim of Alleged Swindlers Tells How He Begged Self and Family.

HIS LOSS WAS \$21,000.

Twelve Thousand in Cash and \$9,000 House Went to A. L. Wisner & Co.

At the trial of A. L. Wisner and John L. Meyers, today, before Judge Mack and a jury in the United States District Court, Criminal Branch, for defrauding customers with worthless mining stock, C. N. Johnson of Rockford, Ill., told how A. L. Wisner & Company, after getting him to invest all his money, took his house, giving in return one-third cash and two-thirds stock in the various companies. Johnson lost everything, his contribution to A. L. Wisner & Co. amounting to \$21,000.

Johnson, a middle-aged man with a family, became almost a nervous wreck after the loss of his money and his home and is still affected. His testimony caused many clashes between opposing counsel. He was examined by Assistant United States Attorney Brown.

"I first read of A. L. Wisner & Co. in the Mining Herald," said the witness. "I read of how their stocks were big dividend payers and how they were protected by the \$100,000 trust fund, making it impossible for an investor to lose a cent. I went to San Francisco, where the main offices were, and saw John J. Meyers. He looked me straight in the eye and said I could not possibly lose. After he looked me in the eye I had confidence in him, and gave him all the money I had at the time for stock."

The witness then went on to tell of how he used all of his cash to buy stock and that when they asked him to buy more stock he said he had no more money, but was going to sell his house in San Francisco.

"Meyers became interested," said Johnson, "and said that perhaps he could fix it up about the house, so he and Charles F. Humphreys came to the house and, after looking it over, said they would be glad to take it. I told them I was a family man and could not take any chances and they assured me any investment in their stock was absolutely safe. I told them the house was worth \$9,000. They argued and argued and finally gave me \$3,000 in cash and the rest in stock. They then got the house. They kept after me, telling me I had better buy more stock, as it was fast being sold out and I would not be able to get any more. So I used the \$3,000 and bought more of their stock and lost it all."

The main recital of how he lost his home and his money unnerfed him and several times he was on the verge of a breakdown. The counsel for the defense fought bitterly to exclude Johnson's testimony, but were overruled. The bait used by A. L. Wisner & Co. to induce Johnson and many others to keep on buying stock, it is alleged, was fictitious dividends; from the first big batch of stock Johnson bought he received about a \$5 dividend. The Government will show, it asserts, that the mines on which dividends were supposedly paid were never capable of paying dividends.



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UNITED CIGAR STORES

ANOTHER BATTLE ON BETWEEN FLEETS OF GREECE AND TURKEY

Heavy Firing by Warships, in Conflict Renewed, Outside the Dardanelles.

SEDIL-BAHR, Dardanelles, Dec. 17.—Another naval battle was begun between the Turkish and Greek fleets early today outside the entrance to the Dardanelles Straits. The firing was very heavy. How many vessels are engaged is not known.

Today's battle in the Aegean Sea off the western entrance to the Dardanelles began shortly after daybreak, and lasted for many hours. The Greek ships took the initiative, it was said. The Turkish gunboats and destroyers kept under the range of the Turkish forts, which returned the fire of the Greek fleet.

Sea fighting between Greeks and Turks in the Aegean began last Saturday and has continued almost incessantly. The Turkish ships, bottled up in the Dardanelles, have tried each day to run the Greek blockade. In yesterday's engagement it was reported that the Greeks lost three vessels and the Turks two. No report was received on today's losses.

After the naval battle off the Dardanelles the Turkish warships returned to their anchorage with flags flying and bands playing amid the enthusiastic applause of the crowds lining the shore. According to an eye witness who verifies the official report of the engagement, after a long range exchange of shots the smaller Greek vessels retired, leaving the pride of the Greek navy, the cruiser Georgio Averoff, to bear the brunt of the fighting. The cruiser seemed to be using only her small caliber guns and showed signs of having been struck by three or four shells. Finally she slowly retired from the combat. The Turkish vessels then returned to their anchorage.

The Greek torpedo boats and submarines remained behind an island under cover during the fighting.

"HOSPITAL ANGEL" IS THE BLIND MOTHER OF MISS GOULD'S FIANCE

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 17.—Totally blind and suffering great pain in an injured hip which can never be cured and which compels her to hobble about with a crutch and stick, Mrs. Peter L. Shepard, mother of Finley J. Shepard, the St. Louis railroad man who will marry Miss Helen Gould, told today how much pleasure she gets from the fact that her son, as she referred to him, is to wed brought to her.

Mrs. Shepard for nearly five years has been treated at the New Haven Hospital. She is now eighty-three years old and, despite her injury and blindness, is admittedly the most cheerful patient in the institution, never losing the opportunity to comfort the suffering although in many instances the plight of these is far better than her own. Because of her unflinching cheerfulness and willingness to help, Mrs. Shepard is known to doctors, nurses and patients alike as the "Sunshine of the Hospital" and the "Angel of the Ward."

And her open rejoicing in the happiness she is sure is to come to her son is a joy to all with whom she comes into contact.

"He has been a good boy and he de-

serves all of the good that may come to him," said Mrs. Shepard today. "At the time the engagement was publicly announced he sent me a telegram telling me all about it. He is a good son."

Mrs. Shepard keeps in touch at all times with all of her five children. Three weeks ago Mr. Shepard came here to see her following the funeral of his father at Clinton.

ALDERMEN HONOR MR. REID.

Pass Resolutions on Death of Ambassador to England.

On the motion of Alderman Miles R. Becker, the Board of Aldermen today

adopted a resolution on the death of Whitelaw Reid.

The resolution said in part: "Identified with this city for all but a few early years of his life, Mr. Reid was an example of diligence and faithful performance of every duty. Chosen by one of the great pioneers of modern journalism within a brief period he attained the control of a great paper. His conduct of this marked him for other honors.

"Resolved, That our heartfelt sympathy go out to his widow and family in their bereavement.

"Resolved, That as a further mark of respect this board do now adjourn."

FOUNDED 1856

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MEN'S & BOYS' CLOTHING HATS & FURNISHINGS

Appreciation of the splendid values and the expression of complete satisfaction evidenced by all who availed themselves of the advantages offered in our

Men's Fancy Mixture Sack Suits

Reduced to

\$25

From \$30, \$32, \$35 and \$38

Prompts a further replenishing of suits at this price.

We've just put in a few hundred more of the better grades and a quantity of Business Walking Suits.

Astor Place & Fourth Avenue

SUBWAY AT THE DOOR—ONE BLOCK FROM BROADWAY

HOLIDAY GIFTS

Of Practical Value at Reduced Prices

Semi-Annual

Clearance Sale

Boudoir caps and slippers, Formerly \$2.75 to \$12.75 1.75 to 7.50

Albatross silk and crepe de Chine sacques, Formerly \$3.50 to \$11.75 2.45 to 6.75

Negligees and tea gowns, in all materials, Formerly \$9.75 to \$26.75 4.75 to 19.75

Lingerie, brocade and chiffon blouses, Formerly \$2.75 to \$22.75 1.85 to 14.75

Silk and crepe de Chine petticoats, In all colors, lace or fancy plaid flounce. Value up to \$15.00 2.95 to 7.85

Corsage bouquets and loose flowers, Satin, chiffon, metal roses, buds and violets. Value up to \$2.50 .75 to 1.35

Hand emb'd collars, lace fichus and scarfs, Fine imported laces. Value up to \$12.75 3.95 to 8.45

Infants' wear and accessories, Hand made dresses, caps, jackets and hangers. Value up to \$10.00 .75 to 6.75

Lane Bryant 25 West 38th St., Near Fifth Ave.

WASHINGTON HEIGHTS BRANCH, Broadway and 163d St.

"Our Microbe Foes"

Are ever on the lookout for the weak point in our armor whereby they can enter and destroy.

Eminent authorities tell us that the mouth is the Happy Hunting Ground of Bacteria and Bacilli.

The constant use of "ODOL" as a mouthwash may be the means of saving your life.

Pleasant to use and delightfully refreshing.

It will also keep your teeth in a healthy condition.

There is nothing "Just as Good" as "ODOL."

Price 50 Cents.

At All Druggists and Department Stores.

GEO. BORGFELDT & CO.

NEW YORK CHICAGO SAN FRANCISCO

FOR FUTURE EDISONS!

This Pony Telephone Receiver, shell and base made of hard rubber composition, mounted on a nickel hanger, would with two of these "Pony" receivers and a battery, make a complete telephone set. We make more than 100,000 of these in the United States. Price each 40c.

The Name E. I. Co. on the World Over.

This State Machine is a complete set of tools for the home. It is made of the best materials and is guaranteed to last. Price each \$8.00.

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